

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A slide fastener comprising:

a pair of fastener tapes each having a fastener element for engagement, and  
~~a slider for closing and opening the fastener tapes;~~

said fastener elements protruding from the respective tapes and engaging with  
each other, thereby making it possible for the pair of fastener tapes to be joined one above the  
other; and

a slider for closing and opening the fastener tapes, said slider having a guide  
column and a top plate provided above the guide column and a bottom plate provided below the  
guide column;

said guide column being provided generally perpendicular to the fastener tapes;

said top plate including a first end and a second end, said first end extending  
downward and forming a left side part while said second end extends to an open space;

said bottom plate including a first end and a second end, said first end extending  
upward and forming a right side part while said second end extends to an open space; and

wherein left and right fastener element housings are formed between the guide  
column and the left and right side parts.

2. (Original) A slide fastener according to claim 1 wherein the fastener elements are arranged longitudinally at locations other than the longitudinal edges of the fastener tapes.

3. (Original) A slide fastener according to claim 1 wherein the fastener elements are coils.

4. (Original) A slide fastener according to claim 1 wherein the fastener elements are rows of teeth.

5. (Currently Amended) A slide fastener for closing and opening fastener tapes comprising:  
according to claim 1, wherein the slider has

a guide column constructed to perpendicularly engage fastener tapes; and

a top plate provided above said guide column and a bottom plate provided above  
and below said guide column;

said top plate including a first and a second end, said first end one end of said top  
plate extending downward [[,] and forming a left side part [[,] while the other and said second  
end extending to an open space;

said bottom plate including a first end and a second end, said first end one end of  
said bottom plate extending upward [,] and forming a right side part [,] while the other and  
said second end extending to an open space; and

wherein left and right fastener [-] element housings are formed between the  
guide column and the left and right side parts.

6. (Currently Amended) A slide fastener according to claim [[5]] 1, wherein a pull is  
established provided on a side part of the slider body.

7. (Original) A slide fastener according to claim 6, wherein the pull is provided with a  
string.